



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

PO BOX 202501
HELENA MT 59620-2501
www.opi.mt.gov
(406) 444-3095
(888) 231-9393
(406) 444-0169 (TTY)

Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

TO: MBI School Teams

FROM: Susan Bailey-Anderson June Atkins
MBI Coordinator Learn and Serve Montana Director

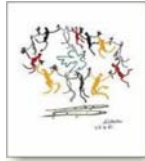
Josset Gauley
Learn and Serve Montana Coordinator

RE: MBI and Service-Learning Youth Day(s)

DATE: September 19, 2006

**"The most satisfying thing in life is to have been able
to give a large part of one's self to others."**

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin



Greetings! Effective school change requires wide stakeholder participation. Engaging the student voice in designing and implementing school change can be very powerful. We can make a difference – one student and one school at a time.

An invitation is extended to you and your middle school and high school students to participate with the MBI and Service-Learning Youth Day(s) for 2006-07. On Sunday, we will begin at 3:00 p.m. and conclude by 9:00 p.m. On Monday, we will commence at 8:30 a.m. and conclude by 3:00 p.m. A meal will be served on Sunday evening and a continental breakfast and lunch on Monday. Your school will be reimbursed for travel, lodging (if you should need it) and per diem at the current state rates. **Please see the enclosure for dates and location in your area.**

To "kick off" the event, school teams will be seated together. Please think of a creative way to introduce your team in a positive manner that promotes school spirit and positive school culture. James Vollbracht, a trainer from the Search Institute, will be facilitating the entire event. Activities are planned so that students will have the opportunity to work with students from other schools as well as with their own teams. With this year's event, we will be providing information regarding Service-Learning. Teams will conduct Service-Learning projects in each of the locations on Monday of the event.

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."

The day will be structured so that teams of students and school staff will create action plans for their school site regarding the implementation of the MBI process and Service-Learning as well as addressing leadership skills, asset building, and bully prevention at their school. Sessions and activities will be mostly student directed with school staff participation. This event includes opportunities for fun, networking, and developing future and current leaders. We are making arrangements to have this Youth Day videotaped as well. If your school has not received permission to videotape your students, please utilize the enclosed permission form and return to this office. You will need to make additional copies for your students.

The experience from past Youth Days was enthusiastic, motivating, and all who attended had a great time. Please plan to have a team meeting before the Youth Day so that all participants are “on the same page” with understanding the philosophy of MBI.

Please plan to attend this event and bring 10-12 participants. This includes both students and staff. In selecting students, please include a broad spectrum of your student population including student leaders and future student leaders. A cross section of your student population would be ideal in promoting diverse ideas and thoughts. Please complete the enclosed RSVP form indicating the number and names of both students and staff who will be attending. This is important to adequately plan for meals and/or other activities.

Please return these forms:

- ♦ **RSVP**
- ♦ **Rooming List**
- ♦ **Permission form**

For questions, please call me at (406)444-2046 or e-mail sbanderson@mt.gov

Enclosures

Cc: Consultants
Jim Vollbracht
Kim Anderson